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 C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 13575
 FOR H AND EUR/SOV, IMMEDIATE
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 FAS:THOMASSON, FAA

E.O. 12356: DECL 11/11/87
 TAGS: OREP, EEWT, UR
 SUBJECT: CODEL DOLE, MOYNIHAN, BREAUX ET AL:
 IMPLICATIONS OF BREZHNEV'S DEATH FOR US-USSR TRADE
 AND ECONOMIC COUNCIL MEETING IN MOSCOW

1. (C-ENTIRE TEXT.)
2. BREZHNEV'S DEATH ON 11/10/82 WAS ANNOUNCED THIS MORNING AT 11 A.M. WITH NO INFORMATION REGARDING PLANS FOR FUNERAL OR ANY OTHER CHANGES IN SOVIET GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES.
3. NEVERTHELESS, ADDRESSEES SHOULD BE AWARE THAT WE CONSIDER IT VERY UNLIKELY THAT THE US-USSR TRADE AND ECONOMIC COUNCIL MEETINGS SCHEDULED FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 15 WILL OCCUR. ANY DECISION TO CANCEL WILL OF COURSE HAVE TO COME FROM THAT ORGANIZATION, PARTICULARLY THE SOVIET SIDE OF IT, AND NO SUCH ANNOUNCEMENT HAS YET BEEN MADE.
4. PENDING FURTHER INFORMATION, WE THINK IT UNLIKELY THAT CODELS COULD HAVE ANY USEFUL MEETINGS WITH SENIOR SOVIET OFFICIALS NEXT WEEK EITHER. WE SUGGEST, THEREFORE, THAT ADDRESSEES BEGIN MAKING CONTINGENCY PLANS FOR THE LIKELY EVENT THAT CODELS WILL CANCEL OR BE ASKED TO CANCEL THE MOSCOW PORTION OF THEIR TRIP.
5. FOR EUR/SOV: WE HAVE SUGGESTED TO JOE NEUBERT THAT HE MAY WISH TO USE OUR TELEPHONE OR TELEGRAM

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FACILITIES TO CONTACT VERITY. WE THINK IT WOULD
BE AN APPROPRIATE GESTURE ON THE PART OF THE U.S.
SIDE OF USTEC TO TELL THE SOVIETS THAT OF
COURSE THE U.S. BUSINESS COMMUNITY WOULD UNDERSTAND
IF THE USTEC MEETINGS MUST BE CANCELLED.
(NEUBERT IS HOLDING OFF DOING SO UNTIL MEETING WITH
GRIBKOV, WHO HAS NOT YET ARRIVED IN HIS USTEC
OFFICE.)

HARTMAN
END OF MESSAGE

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